

REMARKS

The Examiner's Action mailed on May 12, 2003 has been received and its contents carefully considered. In this Amendment, applicant has canceled claims 1 and 2, and amended claims 17 and 23. For at least the following reasons, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

The Examiner objected to the drawings, requiring that Figs. 19 and 20 be labeled "Prior Art." New drawings so labeled are submitted herewith.

The Examiner rejected claims 17-25 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, because the claim 17 "and dependent claims 18-25" recite both "chips" and "chip." Claim 17 has been amended to change "chip" to "chips." Dependent claims 18-21 recite neither "chip" nor "chips." According the rejection of claims 17-21 no longer is applicable, and accordingly should be withdrawn.

It is noted that claim 22 is an independent claim that recites chip, but not chips. Claims 24 and 25 depend from claim 22 and recite neither "chip" nor "chips." Therefore the rejection of claims 22-25 is traversed on this basis and also should be withdrawn. Dependent claim 23, depending from claim 22 recites "chips", but in a way not indefinite. On this basis the rejection of claim 23 also is traversed. Nevertheless, claim 23 has been amended to be independent form, reciting "chips" but not "chip".


The Examiner rejected claims 1 and 2 over prior art. Claims 1 and 2 have been canceled to advance the prosecution. The rejections accordingly should be withdrawn.

Applicant notes with appreciation that claims 3-16 are indicated to be allowed. Therefore, based on the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Such a Notice, with allowed claims 3-25, earnestly is solicited.

Should the Examiner feel that a conference would help to expedite the prosecution of the application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange for such a conference

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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